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**Application No:** GB 0225407.6  
**Claims searched:** 1-9

**Examiner:** Nigel Hanley  
**Date of search:** 20 June 2003

## Patents Act 1977 : Search Report under Section 17

### Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
X	1-9	WO 2001/076133 A1 BT - See whole document especially Figs 2 & 3. Note the generation of keys to subscribers using a tree. Note also recalculation of parent keys on revocation of a user.
X	1-9	WO 2002/078419 A2 MATSUSHITA - See whole document. Note method of rekeying branches of a hierarchical tree when a terminal is compromised.
X	1-9	EP 1235381 A1 SONY - See whole document. Note use of a key enabling block to determine a revoked entity in a hierarchical tree.
X	1-9	US 6397329 B1 TELECORDIA - See whole document. Note the method of identifying revoked or expired identities to reduce load in reissuing keys.
X	1-9	"On key Distribution Management for Conditional Access System on Pay-TV System" - Tu, Laih & Jung - IEEE Transactions on Consumer Electronics, Vol 45, No 1 Feb 1999. Copyright 30.11.1998. - Note whole document. Note grouping of users according to subscription levels and method of reissuing keys in 4 level system.

### Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

### Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC<sup>v</sup>:

G4A, H4P

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC<sup>7</sup>:

G06F, H04L

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report:

WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO, Internet